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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SKIPTON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1953

BY

M. Hunter, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

The Urban District Council of Skipton

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the year

1953

by

M. HUNTER, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Council
(ex-officio)

Councillor Mrs. M. Mitchell, J.P.

Chairman

Councillor H.H. Walker

Vice Chairman

" A. Walker

" Mrs. M.P. Banks

" E. Moorhouse

" P.J. Morgan

" E.P. Rowley

" E. Spencer

Staff of the Department

Medical Officer of Health and
Divisional Medical Officer

M. Hunter, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

E. Hargreaves, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

A.F.G. Holmes, M.S.I.A.

Pupil

D.M. Pickles

Clerk

Miss. M. Ashworth

Divisional Health Office,

19a, High Street,

SKIPTON

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the report for the year 1953, and including as an appendix a report on the Local Health Authority's services in the West Riding Council Council's No.1. Health Division which covers the urban districts of Silsdon, Skipton, Earby and Barnoldswick, and the Skipton Rural District.

The sections of the report dealing with housing, factories, environmental hygiene and the supervision of food have been compiled by the Chief Sanitary Inspector to whom my thanks are due, not only for this, but for his close co-operation and valued assistance throughout the year.

Viewed from the statistical angle it may be regarded as a satisfactory year in some respects, less so in others. "Health is a condition of complete physical, mental and social well being, and not merely an absence of disease or infirmity". Such is the accepted definition of the charter of the World Health Organisation, and we are obviously very far from its attainment. No fewer than 908,000 people were drawing insurance for sickness absence on an average day in 1950. This figure does not include absences from industrial accidents, proscribed industrial diseases, nor all the trivial but common absences lasting four days or less. Even so it represents 1 in every 25, or 4% of the insured population. Such a vast toll of ill health, much of it preventable, shows that there are absolutely no grounds for complacency: and that although much has been done to improve the health of the people there is much which remains to be done, by every authority dealing with this problem, no matter how limited their powers and resources may be.

In concluding this introduction, I should like to place on record my thanks to the Chairman and Members, the Clerk and other officials, and the staff of the department for their kindness and courteous assistance at all times.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

M. HUNTER

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of the Urban District (acres)	4,211
Estimated population	13,070
Population at 1951 census	13,210
Number of inhabited houses (estimated)	4,480
Rateable Value for General Rate.. .. .	£93,195. 0. 0.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.. .. .	376. 16. 9.

BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live, Legitimate	180	98	82
Illegitimate	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>
Total:	<u>186</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>87</u>
Still, Legitimate	5	2	3
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total:	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Total Births:	<u>191</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>90</u>

BIRTH RATES

Live Births (per 1,000 estimated population)	14.23
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births).	26.17

DEATH RATES

(crude)

(per 1,000 estimated population)

All causes	19.58
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .. .. .	.15
Other forms of Tuberculosis .. .. .	.07
Respiratory Diseases . .. .	.91
Cancer	2.44
Heart and Circulatory Disease	9.86

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age

All infants (per 1,000 live births)	21
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Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality
Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain
Infectious Diseases in the Year 1953

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns

	England and Wales	C.B.'s and great Towns incl. London	Smaller Towns (resident pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Admin County	Skipton Urban District
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population				
BIRTHS:					
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	14.23
Still Births	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.38
DEATHS:					
All causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	19.58
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	-
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.22
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	-
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis including Polioencephalitis Pneumonia	0.01 0.55	0.01 0.59	0.01 0.52	0.01 0.64	- 0.45
NOTIFICATIONS: (corrected)					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	-
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	-
Scarlet Fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	0.30
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	0.53
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	-
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	-
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	25.7
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	0.38
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis (a) Paralytic (b) Non Paralytic	0.07 0.04	0.06 0.03	0.06 0.04	0.07 0.03	- -
Food Poisoning	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38	-
Puerperal pyrexia	18.23(a)	24.33(a)	12.46(a)	28.61(a)	20.94(a)

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

	England and Wales	C.B's. and great Towns including London	Smaller Towns (resident pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Admin. County	Skipton Urban District
		<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>			
DEATHS:					
All causes under 1 year of age.	26.8 (b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	21.5
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	-

Maternal Mortality

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

	England & Wales	Skipton Urban District
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	0.10	-
Abortion with toxæmia	0.01	-
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	0.24	-
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	0.13	-
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	0.04	-
Abortion with sepsis	0.06	-
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	0.18	-

(a) Per 1,000 related (Live and Still) Births

(b) Per 1,000 related Live Births

DEATH

Cause of Death

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	-	2
Tuberculosis Other	-	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	4	3	7
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	-	4
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	8	8
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic Neoplasms	6	5	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	26	48
Coronary diseases, angina	17	8	25
Hypertension with heart disease	5	2	7
Other heart diseases	45	48	93
Other Circulatory diseases	3	1	4
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	3	6
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hypertrophy of prostate	2	-	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	9	17
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	3	3	6
Suicide	3	1	4
Homicide and operations of War	-	-	-
All causes	133	123	256

COMMENTARY ON VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS:

The birth rate of 14.2 is the same as that of the preceeding year, and is again below the West Riding figure of 15.7. The rate for England and Wales as a whole was 15.5, compared with 15.3, 15.5, 15.8, 16.7 and 17.8 in the five preceeding years.

DEATHS:

The crude death rate of 19.6 is much higher than the rates for preceeding years, but this rise is due to an alteration in statistical methods whereby all deaths in Raikeswood Hospital are now attributed to the Skipton Urban District. This alteration has been made on the instructions of the Registrar General, and cancels the previous arrangement whereby deaths in this hospital were transferred to the place of domicile. The crude death rates for the Administrative County and England and Wales were 11.6 and 11.4 respectively

INFANTILE MORTALITY:

This is the death rate of infants under one year per thousand live births. The figure of 21 shows a reduction from 32.6 in the preceeding year, and compares favourably with rates of 29.2 for the Administrative County, and 26.8 for England and Wales as a whole. The still birth rate (per thousand live and still births) was 26.2 compared with a County figure of 24.7 and a national figure of 22.4.

MATERNAL MORTALITY:

There were again no deaths attributable to pregnancy, childbirth or the puerperium.

SECTION B

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. GENERAL

The home nursing, midwifery, health visiting, ambulance, home help, and mental health services are provided by the County Council and dealt with in the Appendix. Reference will also be found there to staffing and clinic arrangements, vaccination and immunisation, the prevention of illness and the school health service.

2. LABORATORY SERVICES

The Medical Research Council's laboratories in Wakefield and Bradford are available for the examination of water, milk, ice-cream and a variety of pathological specimens. They provide an excellent service, and the advice and assistance of the directors is greatly appreciated.

3. HOSPITAL SERVICES

Maternity accommodation is available at the Cawder Ghyll, St. John's (Keighley), St. Winifred's (Ilkley) and Skipton General Hospitals. They have provided accommodation for every case in the priority classes and, so far as it is known, every other applicant.

The St. John's (Keighley) and Raikeswood Hospitals provide sufficient accommodation for the long term sick in the area, but as the turn-over of beds is necessarily slow, difficulties arise from time to time when accommodation is required for an urgent case of this type. It is hoped that these difficulties will eventually be overcome by the establishment of a geriatric service and a bed bureau, along with an improved integration of the hospital services.

Occasionally, the local health authority's services are used in facilitating the admission and discharge of patients, but not to anything like the extent to which they are used so successfully in many other places.

Of the general hospitals, Skipton provides 64 beds and the Keighley Victoria 144. The former has had no resident doctor during the year, and the staffing arrangements are such as to militate against its development as the hospital centre for the Craven District.

There has been no difficulty in securing beds for cases of infectious diseases at the Morton Banks (Keighley), Seacroft (Leeds) and the Leeds Road (Bradford) Hospitals.

4. BLIND PERSONS

There are 33 blind persons registered in the district. Supervision is given by the Blind Persons Teacher employed by the County Council, and specialist examinations are carried out periodically by an Ophthalmologist.

It should be appreciated that the steady increase in the proportion of old people in the population is naturally increasing the incidence of blindness, which is so largely an affliction of the elderly. Much of this blindness is due to cataract and

glaucoma, and could be prevented in a considerable proportion of cases by earlier diagnosis and treatment.

5. WATER SUPPLIES

Mr. Robinson, the Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information:-

1. (a) The supply has been satisfactory throughout the area, in quality.
(b) The supply has been satisfactory throughout the area, in quantity.
2. The results of bacteriological examinations of samples taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector are detailed below.
3. Although the raw water might under certain conditions be plumbo-solvent, the chemical treatment at Embsay prevents the supply to the town having this effect.
4. No action has been necessary in respect of any form of contamination.
5. Number of dwelling houses in Skipton Urban District 4,430
Population in Skipton Urban District 13,070

No houses are supplied by means of standpipes.

A bulk supply agreement is in operation with the Skipton Rural District Council to supply Embsay village, Halton East and Draughton.

PLUMBO SOLVENCY

Date	Approx. length of lead service pipe	Lead content (grains per gln.)	pH Value
1. 4.53	20'	Nil	7.8 standing in pipe all night
1. 4.53	20'	Nil	7.8 standing in pipe for measured period of $\frac{1}{2}$ hour
14.10.53	20'	Nil	7.5 standing in pipe all night
14.10.53	20'	Nil	7.5 standing in pipe for measured period of $\frac{1}{2}$ hour

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

Town's Water

Date	Plate Count. Yeastrel agar 2 days 37°C aerobically	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey	Probable number faecal coli
	<u>Unfiltered</u>		
2. 1.53	50	90	90
	<u>Filtered and Chlorinated</u>		
2. 1.53	8	0	0
19. 1.53	5	0	0
19. 1.53	10	0	0
27. 2.53	40	18	0
27. 2.53	3	0	0
9. 3.53	3	18	0
12. 3.53	16	0	0
12. 3.53	11	0	0
12. 3.53	10	0	0
9. 4.53	11	0	0
9. 4.53	2	0	0
15. 4.53	7	0	0
23. 4.53	2	0	0
9. 6.53	1	0	0
29. 7.53	0	0	0
31. 8.53	1	0	0
24. 9.53	1	0	0
9. 9.53	0	0	0
19.10.53	3	0	0
19.10.53	1	0	0
10.11.53	-	0	0
10.11.53	-	0	0
21.12.53	-	0	0
21.12.53	-	0	0

6. SWIMMING BATHS

The covered and open-air pools have been available, the latter for only a limited period during the summer, for it has no filtration plant and effective chlorination is difficult to achieve. Although the covered pool has no chlorination plant, regular treatment with chloros and frequent testing has generally shown a satisfactory water when examined bacteriologically.

7. SEWERAGE, DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There is almost a complete system of sewerage in the town. There were extensions on the Horso Close Council housing estate and the Tarn Moor estate for private development, which included approximately 894 yards of surface water sewer, and 490 yards of foul sewer.

There were no complaints of pollution from the sewage works, and the methods of treatment were found to be satisfactory.

The sanitary inspectors made ninety visits to premises to inspect drainage work. The new work inspected was in relation to the following: the conversion of six hopper type water-closets to pedestal type water-closets, the construction of twenty-nine fresh water-closets, and the reconstruction of drains at four dwelling-houses.

Closet Accommodation:

Practically the whole of the town is on the water-carriage system, and the approximate number of sanitary conveniences is 6,370 fresh water-closets, 5 waste water-closets and 3 pail closets.

The 3 pail closets are situated in the built-up area, and are inconvertible because they are situated below the level of the sewer.

Rivers and Streams:

The responsible authority for the supervision of rivers and streams is the West Riding Rivers Board. No complaints of pollution were received by the department, and no instances of pollution came to the notice of the sanitary inspectors.

8. FOOD HYGIENE

Although no outbreak of food poisoning was reported in the district during the year, and despite all that has been said and written about this subject and the methods of prevention in recent times, there is no evidence that over the whole country food poisoning is diminishing. The following figures provided in response to a Parliamentary question, gives the number of outbreaks in England and Wales during the first nine months of 1953:-

<u>Casual Organism</u>	<u>Outbreaks</u>	<u>Persons Affected</u>
Salmonella group	117	2,302
Staphylococci group	61	2,118
Cl. Welchii	11	461
Miscellaneous	14	134
Unknown	97	951
	<u>300</u>	<u>5,966</u>

<u>Type of Food</u>		
Meat and meat products	109	2,605
Fish and fish products	12	75
Duck eggs	12	15
Milk and milk products	20	1,775
Miscellaneous	15	58
Vehicle of infection not established	132	1,438
	<u>300</u>	<u>5,966</u>

These figures are notifications to medical officers of health only, and there is no doubt that many more cases occurred.

It is clear that health authorities, caterers and most of all food handlers must increase their efforts to ensure that all food stuffs are handled hygienically and prepared and stored in such a way that they are fit to eat. In the long run, however, the success of plans to make dirty food a thing of the past will depend on the public. The education of food manufacturers and handlers will be slow so long as the public remain apathetic about the purity and cleanliness of the food they buy in shops, canteens, cafes or restaurants, and now that food is available in greater quantities and varieties it is most necessary for the purchaser to complain immediately he detects the vendor indulging in any sort of unhygienic practice.

9. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The measurement of atmospheric pollution is undertaken by the County Council in co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and three types of instrument are located in Skipton. The deposit gauge measures the amount of deposited matter polluting the atmosphere, the lead peroxide instrument the amount of sulphur (SO_2) pollution, and the smoke filter the amount of suspended impurity.

The results of analyses with these instruments are shown in the following table:-

Month	Rainfall in mm.	Total Solids deposited in tons per sq. mile	Sulphur-in mgms.(SO ₃) per 100 sq.oms. per day	Average daily suspended impurity in mgms. per cubic metre
January	33	15.50	0.67	33.2
February	63	11.02	0.93	27.5
March	50	16.51	1.09	39.4
April	73	16.17	0.58	26.3
May	26	14.59	0.30	23.1
June	63	10.07	0.20	15.7
July	71	22.74	0.41	21.0
August	144	26.92	0.46	21.0
September	102	20.69	0.52	26.3
October	95	14.08	0.91	No figures available
November	79	23.82	0.72	50.5
December	52	12.57	1.08	30.1

When comparing these figures with results from other areas it should be remembered that at present the major pollution arises from the domestic chimney, with the traditional open fire and wasteful grate in which the full thermal value of the fuel is never obtained.

Most people have grown up with these conditions, and their associated economic loss, and it is only isolated incidents, like the London smoke fog or "smog" in December, 1952, responsible for 4,000 deaths, which remind them of the dangers.

Smoke associated with fog undoubtedly has a serious effect on the elderly and chronic bronchitic, and it has recently been shown that death rates from bronchitis in middle aged men are highest in industrial areas where the atmosphere is heavily polluted. This state of affairs should no longer be accepted when the creation of smokeless zones in Manchester, Coventry and elsewhere have shown what can be done to improve it.

10. CREMATION

The Skipton Urban District Council's crematorium was opened on 30th. May, 1952, and between that date and the end of 1953 over eleven hundred cremations have taken place. The demand for this simple, complete, hygienic and reverent method of disposal of the dead is increasing year by year. It is also an economic method, for half a million people die in Great Britain each year, and to bury them requires on an average 500 acres of land.

The Medical Officer of Health is the medical referee to the Crematorium, assisted by a deputy as required.

11. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Those Acts provide for the removal to hospital or other suitable place of persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm, or physically handicapped are living in insanitary conditions, being unable to devote to themselves and not receiving from other persons proper care and attention.

Prior to 1948 the Relieving Officer supervised, and when necessary removed such persons. This Officer has now been abolished, a step of doubtful wisdom in an ageing population where the younger members are sometimes only too anxious to transfer their responsibilities to the State.

It was not necessary to take action under these Acts during the year, it being possible to deal with such cases as came to notice by other methods

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1. DIPHTHERIA

Another year has passed without a case of diphtheria in the district. There was a further fall in diphtheria cases notified in England and Wales in 1952, but for the first year since the national immunisation campaign got well under way in 1942 there was no appreciable decline in the number of deaths. In fact, the case fatality rate was the highest since 1919.

The increasing rarity of this disease may be leading to a dangerous delay in treatment, i.e., the administration of anti-toxin, and emphasises the prime importance of mitigating the often tragic effect of this disease by the proved means of immunisation. Furthermore, there is a possibility that the prevailing type of diphtheria organism may be undergoing some change.

2. SCARLET FEVER

There were 4 cases compared with 34 in 1952. This infection is a diminishing hazard to the child health of the country and the vast majority of cases are now of a very mild type.

3. WHOOPING COUGH

Only 7 cases were notified compared with 25, 21 and 35 in the three previous years. A vaccine for immunising young children against this disease is now available to all doctors, and it is hoped that the incidence of what is often a distressing, and always a serious disease in infancy will be permanently reduced.

4. MEASLES

Although the tendency for measles to occur in biennial epidemics is often less obvious these days, the 27 cases notified in 1952 were followed by 336 during the year under review. So far as is known no deaths were attributed to this disease or its complications.

5. PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Four cases were notified following confinement in hospital, but the definition of this disease has been amended, and now includes some cases which would previously have escaped notification.

6. SMALLPOX

Although there were no cases in the district the outbreak on the Lancashire-Yorkshire border centred on Todmorden and spreading eastwards to Leeds, caused considerable alarm. Thirty nine cases were recognised there: seven died, and as at least two of these were not diagnosed before death others may have occurred. It is certain that modified unrecognised cases were responsible for spreading the infection in some instances.

Little more than two years ago twenty-nine cases of virulent smallpox occurred in Brighton with ten deaths, and 135 cases of variola minor were reported in East Lancashire in 1952. With increased facilities for airborne travel, Oriental smallpox is an ever present menace, but it would cease to be if all children were vaccinated in infancy and again during school life. These procedures are practically trouble free, but the public remains apathetic until smallpox appears and causes panic.

7. TUBERCULOSIS

This disease is, and will remain for some time a serious public health problem. Despite the measures which are now available for its control, which include streptomycin and other new drugs, mass miniature radiography, tuberculin testing, B.C.G. vaccination, the provision of additional hospital beds, and the elimination of tuberculosis germs from milk - the notification rate shows little change. Fewer people are dying from the disease each year, thanks to earlier diagnosis and more effective methods of treatment,

but the number of notifications is not decreasing and shows what a large reservoir of actual or potential infection remains in the community.

The routine methods of preventive medicine are those which can deal with it. The isolation of sputum positive cases; education of the patient how to avoid being a danger to others; tracing, examination, and supervision of contacts; and the encouragement of social, familial and working conditions inimicable to the spread of infection. Such is the aim in dealing with known cases, often difficult in application, but obviously impossible in cases which are not notified. At present one death from tuberculosis in every six occurs in persons not notified before death. Raw, undesignated milk is still a considerable reservoir of infection. Random sampling within the Division during the year revealed 7 samples of milk containing tubercle bacilli, and despite progress under the Tuberculosis (Attested Herds) Scheme less than forty per cent of cattle in Great Britain belonged to "attested" herds, and were free from tuberculosis at the end of 1952.

In so far as the urban district is concerned 16 cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, compared with 15, 13 and 9 in the three preceding years. 19 patients were admitted to tuberculosis hospitals, and 12 discharged. 102 cases remained on the register at the end of the year.

B.C.G. VACCINE

This has been offered by the Chest Physician in all suitable cases. It is a form of inoculation similar in principle to smallpox vaccination, and produces in the human body an artificially acquired resistance to the disease. As it has only been in use in this county for a comparatively short time, it is uncertain whether it offers complete protection, but there is little doubt that it reduces the risk of contracting tuberculosis.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The aim of this service is the detection of early and symptomless cases of tuberculosis, and over 50 units are operating in England and Wales. On an average about 3.5 cases per thousand examined are found to have active tuberculosis.

A unit of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board visited Skipton during the year at the request of the Medical Officer of Health, to undertake a special investigation in a school, but as no public sessions were held it is not proposed to give the usual figures of attendance etc.

8. VENEREAL DISEASES

Notification of these diseases is not made to the Medical Officer of Health but the County Venereologist has been able to provide certain figures. During the year there were 6 cases attending special treatment centres, but only in 2 was the diagnosis confirmed. Other cases may have been treated by general practitioners without reference to the special centres.

Facilities for diagnosis are available at the Koighloy, Leeds and Bradford hospitals, and certain medical practitioners in the district provide a modified service. The County Council employs a social worker to follow up cases and contacts when required.

In the "Report of the Ministry of Health" for 1952 it is stated that although there was a substantial fall in the number of new cases of syphilis and of congenital syphilis during that year, the post-War fall in the incidence of gonorrhoea has stopped, and that of non-gonococcal urethritis has increased. It is a position which, despite advances in treatment, gives rise to concern from both medical and social points of view.

9. OTHER DISEASES

There were five notifications of pneumonia, two of dysentery, and one of malaria (infection acquired abroad). No notifications were received of poliomyelitis, enteric fever, food poisoning or meningitis. Cases of what is described as epidemic winter vomiting occurred, a condition of unknown aetiology and not notifiable at present.

NOTIFICATION OF, AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease Notified	0 to 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 and over	Age un-known	Total Cases notified	Cases adm.to hosp-ital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio-myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	11	62	100	156	3	-	4	-	336	2	-
Whooping Cough	-	2	2	8	-	-	-	-	7	1	-

Disease Notified	Age Groups						Total cases notified	Cases Adm.to hosp-ital	Total Deaths
	0 -5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 and over	Age un-known			
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	4	-	-	-	4	4	-
Pneumonia	-	1	2	1	1	-	5	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-

THE FOLLOWING REPORT IS FURNISHED BY
E. HARGREAVES, CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, UNDER THE SANITARY
OFFICERS OUTSIDE (LONDON) REGULATIONS, 1935.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of inspections made during the year:-

Premises:

Public Health Nuisances & Housing Defects (including revisits)	1,188
Factories - mechanical & non-mechanical	164
Outworkers' Premises	13
Workplaces	62
Drainage	90
Rodent Control	202
Offensive Trades	3
Smoke Observations	100
Rag Plock Act	5
Pet Animals Act	4
Shops Act	30
Movable Dwellings	81
Places of Public Entertainment (Public Houses, Refreshment Houses, etc.)	102
Schools	30
Alleged filthy and verminous houses	24
Hairdressers and barbers	24
Pig sties	26
Council Tips	78
Milk Distribution	13
Meat and other foods	547
Butchers' shops	56
Food Premises and stalls	580
Ice-cream Premises and stalls	100
Hawkers of food	3
Suspected food poisoning investigations	35
Samples:	
(a) Milk - bacteriological	82
Milk - biological	6
(b) Ice-cream - bacteriological	48
(c) Water - bacteriological	
1. Town's supply	25
2. Private supply	8
3. Swimming Baths	
Open-air	3
Indoor	26
4. Plumb Solvency - Town's Supply	4
Infectious Disease investigations	6
Trade Refuse Survey	261
Petroleum Acts	62
Interviews on premises with owners, agents & contractors	212

Complaints received	103
Informal Notices under the Public Health & Housing Acts, 1953	73
Informal Notices under the Public Health & Housing Acts, outstanding 31st. December, 1952	26
Informal Notices requiring abatement in 1953	99
Informal Notices abated in 1953	70
Informal Notices outstanding 31st. December, 1953	29
Statutory Notices served in 1953	15
Statutory Notices outstanding 31st. December, 1952	16
Statutory Notices complied with in 1953	17
Statutory Notices outstanding 31st. December, 1953	14
Defects outstanding 31st. December, 1952	84
Defects found in 1953	113
Total defects requiring abatement	197
Total defects abated during 1953	134
Total defects outstanding 31st. December, 1953	63

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	10	10	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	88	154	3	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	98	164	3	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

	Out- standing December 1952	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
		1953 Found	1952 Remedied	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:				
(a) insufficient	2	-	2	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	13	4	Nil
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-
Total	2	13	6	Nil

OUTWORKERS:

There were nine outworkers on the Register at the end of the year, and the work carried out was associated with textile weaving.

Thirteen inspections were made of the workrooms and they were found to be clean and satisfactory.

WORKPLACES:

Sixty-two inspections were made, and the sanitary conveniences at two premises were found to be defective and they were given attention. The other workplaces inspected were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

SHOPS:

Thirty inspections were made of these premises, in relation to ventilation, lighting, temperature, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, and facilities for the taking of meals. In two instances the provisions of the Act were being contravened, and the requirements were brought to the notice of the occupiers concerned. As a result, the matters complained of were given attention.

RODENT CONTROL:

Regular baiting with Warfarin was carried out at the Council's refuse tip. A 10% test of the sewer system was made, and in view of the negative results, the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries granted a certificate of exemption from further sewer treatments until April, 1955.

Under the provisions of Section 6 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the department arranged for the treatment of twenty-one poultry runs and allotments. The expenses incurred were recovered from the occupiers. Notices under the provisions of Section 4 of the Act were served upon twelve occupiers of buildings to carry out structural alterations.

In addition, the following premises were treated by the department:-

	<u>Rats</u>	<u>Mice</u>
Dwelling-houses	-	1
Factories	5	-
Food Premises	1	5
Hotels	2	-
Business Premises	1	3
Gardens	-	1

OFFENSIVE TRADES:

There are two rag and bone dealers and one tripe boiler and gut scrapper on the register.

The trades of tripe boiling and gut scraping are carried on at the Council's slaughterhouse and are under the regular supervision of the Moat Inspector.

The other registered premises were found to be clean and satisfactory.

SMOKE ABATEMENT:

One hundred observations, each of thirty minutes duration, were taken of the smoke omitted from factory chimneys. The following results were recorded:-

Minutes of black smoke	66 $\frac{3}{4}$
Minutes of moderate smoke	365 $\frac{3}{4}$
Minutes of very light or no smoke	2,567 $\frac{1}{2}$
Average time black smoke omitted per observation - in minutes	.667
Number of occasions on which black smoke was omitted in contravention of the Council's byelaws	9

On nine occasions smoke was emitted in such a quantity as to be a nuisance, and in contravention of the Council's byelaws. On completion of the observations the boilers were inspected, and the results were confirmed in writing to the firms concerned. Four of the contraventions were found to be due to mechanical defects, and the remainder to negligence on the part of the boiler attendants. One statutory notice, under the provisions of sections 93 and 101 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was served. The actions of the department resulted in improvements which were maintained.

Particular attention was given to nuisances caused by smoke emitted from railway locomotives. On a number of occasions complaints were made to the British Transport Commission, British Railways, which resulted in some improvement. It is felt that more attention should be given to this aspect of atmospheric pollution.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951

There are five premises registered under the provisions of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951. They are small firms, and the greater part of the work carried out is in relation to the remaking and reconditioning of articles. On inspection the provisions of the Act were being complied with, and the standard of cleanliness was found to be satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two licences were granted to persons to keep pet shops. The premises were suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness, and the other provisions of the Act were fully complied with.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

One occupier of land was granted a licence under the provisions of Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936, to have one movable dwelling on his land. The dwelling was kept clean, and there was adequate sanitary accommodation, and a sufficient water supply.

The Council refused to grant a licence to one occupier of land as a site for movable dwellings. The land was continued to be used for the purpose for more than forty-two consecutive days, and therefore information was laid against the owner of the land with the local Court of Summary Jurisdiction. The movable dwellings were removed on the day prior to the hearing, and a written undertaking was given by the owner that the land would not again be used for the purpose without prior consent of the Council. The summons was therefore withdrawn.

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

(Public Houses, Refreshment Houses, Etc.)

There were forty-one premises on the register to which one hundred and two visits were made. During the last three years desirable improvements have been carried out to the sanitary accommodation, resulting in a higher standard of cleanliness.

During the year, the sanitary accommodation at three public houses was improved. It is recommended that where practicable the sanitary conveniences should be entered from inside public houses, resulting in a better control by the licensee and a higher standard of cleanliness.

Plans were submitted for the provision of new sanitary conveniences at two other hotels, and it is hoped to commence the work in the early part of the New Year.

SCHOOLS

There are eleven schools in the district to which thirty visits were made.

The sanitary conveniences at two schools were in a state of disrepair and the washing facilities inadequate. These conditions were brought to the notice of the Managers on a number of occasions, and the matter was referred to the West Riding County Council. Although the expenses incurred in providing these essential facilities are high, it is felt that the time has now arrived when improvements at schools should progress on similar lines to those achieved in other premises. The provision of good sanitary accommodation and washing facilities are essential in the protection of health, and training in the proper use of them is one way of impressing upon the child the importance of personal hygiene.

ALLEGED FILTHY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES

Two houses were found to be infested with bed bugs, and two houses with fleas. These houses were treated by the department, using a D.D.T. 5% spray, with successful results.

BYELAWS

Hairdressors and Barbers

Byelaws, made under Section 120(3) of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, became operative on the 1st. March, 1953. The byelaws are for the purpose of securing the cleanliness of premises, instruments, towels, materials and equipment.

Detailed inspections of all premises carrying on the trade were made, and twenty-one persons and their premises were registered in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The general standard of cleanliness of the premises and instruments, etc., was found to be satisfactory.

Keeping of Animals:

Byelaws, made under Section 81 of the Public Health Act, 1936, became operative on the 1st. August, 1953.

An inspection was made of the pig sties in the area, and five premises were found not to comply with the byelaws. The pig-keepers were notified of the works required, and, as a result, three pig sties were closed and the remainder carried out the required works.

Meat for Feeding Animals:

Byelaws, made under Section 77 of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, became operative on the 14th April, 1953. The byelaws require the sterilisation of meat sold for consumption by dogs, cats or other animals. The sterilisation of meat shall be effected by exposure for a period of at least one hour by boiling to a temperature of 212°F, after the meat has been reduced to portions each not exceeding two pounds in weight.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The department is responsible for the supervision of this work.

Three Karrier Bantam side loading vehicles, of 7 cubic yards capacity, are in regular use, and one vehicle is retained for relief during repair or servicing of the other vehicles. One driver charge-hand and two loaders are engaged on each vehicle, and two workmen carry out paper baling, act as part-time loaders, and assist at the slaughterhouse when necessary.

A regular seven days collection was maintained, except after holiday periods, when the lost time was made up over the succeeding fourteen days.

357 Council dwellings have been constructed since 1947, and the planning of the building sites is such that there is a long carry from the dustbin site to the vehicle. It is now becoming more difficult to maintain a regular weekly collection of refuse. It is felt that this is a matter which requires careful consideration in future planning, as eventually it can have a

marked effect upon the financial side of refuse collection.

The approximate number of receptacles for which the department is responsible for collection is 5,027 dustbins and three pail closets.

In view of the increasing costs of labour and materials it was found necessary to review the charges for the collection of refuse from trade premises. A complete survey was carried out, and after consideration, the following charges were decided upon:-

One bin collected free of charge	
Additional bins	4d. each
One load of refuse removed	£1. 2s. 6d.
Refuse Tip - charge per load	1s. 6d.

The whole of the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on land situated off Ings Lane. A D.7. tractor, a 9 cubic yards scraper and a D.7. bulldozer are hired for the purpose of removing soil for covering, spreading and levelling the tip.

Salvage:

Waste paper is collected, and is baled with an electrically operated Junior Twinrack press. There was an increased demand for waste paper, and although the price per ton was not high, it provided a valuable income to the department. It is hoped that a market for waste paper will continue thus preventing additional costs in disposal.

There are 180 communal bins in the district for the collection of kitchen waste. These are collected separately by a pig keeper, and he provides haulage and galvanised bins, and pays to the Council the sum of £50 per annum.

It is the opinion of some, that this method of collection of kitchen waste should now be abolished. This, of course, would result in the waste food going back into the ordinary dustbin. Irrespective of the additional cost entailed in collection, the potential nuisance arising from putrifying matter would be increased. These conditions are evident in districts where there are no food waste bins.

During the year the weight of salvage and kitchen waste collected was as follows:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>				<u>Income</u>		
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper...	150.	6.	3.	0.	653.	17.	0.
Cardboard ...	9.	7.	2.	0.	60.	9.	0.
Black Scrap ...	5.	9.	3.	0.	18.	13.	7.
Metals ...		4.	3.	6.	9.	16.	0.
Rags & Carpets ...	3.	4.	3.	14.	23.	6.	3.
Mattress ...				24.		6.	0.
Kitchen Waste (Approx.)	168.	13.	3.	16.	766.	7.	10.
	90.	0.	0.	0.	50.	0.	0.
	258.	13.	3.	16.	816.	7.	10.

COST OF REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

1st. April, 1952 - 31st. March, 1953

These figures are calculated on a statement furnished by the Treasurer to the Council

Loads of refuse removed... .. 1,934

EXPENDITURE

Refuse Collection and Motor Vehicles

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Wages	3,299.	19.	5.						
Sick Pay & Holiday Pay	370.	11.	4.						
National Insurance	117.	11.	8.						
Superannuation Contributions	110.	11.	1.						
Additional Superannuation Allowances	47.	12.	3.						
Motor vehicles, repair and maintenance	640.	5.	2.						
Renovals Contribution, motor vehicles	380.	0.	0.						
Rent, Licences & Insurances	221.	15.	4.						
Implements, tools & protective clothing	51.	7.	3.						
Rent	14.	9.	9.						
Conversion of Vehicle	116.	6.	7.						
Other expenses	13.	15.	2.						
				5,384.	5.	0.			

Refuse Disposal

Wages & expenses - salvago	306.	16.	9.			
Wages - Tip	392.	15.	1.			
Sick Pay & Holiday Pay	20.	8.	3.			
National Insurance	13.	16.	1.			
Superannuation Contributions	15.	6.	7.			
Repair & Maintenance	144.	18.	5.			
Rent, Rates & Insurance	66.	11.	4.			
Resoiling & Levelling Tip	322.	3.	10.			
Protective Clothing	3.	18.	8.			
				1,286.	15.	0.

GROSS COST 6,671. 0. 0.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward:							6,671.	0.	0.

INCOME

Refuse Collection:

Charges, Trade Refuse	100.	15.	8.
Other Income	-	-	-

Salvage

Waste Paper	588.	8.	1.
Other Salvage	82.	16.	9.
Kitchen Waste	50.	0.	0.
Other Income	23.	8.	6.

845. 9. 0.

Motor Vehicles:

Hire Charges	34.	17.	6.
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34. 17. 6.

Refuse Disposal:

Tip Rents and Charges	76.	4.	3.
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76. 4. 3.

956. 10. 9.

NETT COST

5,714. 9. 3.

Average nett cost per load	2.	19.	1.
Average nett cost per ton	1.	9.	6.5

(1 load estimated to weigh 2 tons)

HOUSING

The applicants for Council houses were reduced to a number such that it was possible to give some consideration to those living in houses unfit for human habitation. Fifteen individual houses were dealt with and the displaced persons were rehoused.

The Council has under consideration a building programme, of a sufficient size, to meet in the next five years the demands of applicants on the housing list and for providing accommodation for persons living in houses totally unfit for habitation.

It is hoped that the proposals contained in the White Paper "Houses - the Next Step" will be the means of providing legislation to encourage owners to improve and recondition their houses, and provide facilities for the demolition of houses totally unfit for habitation.

The following are particulars of the action taken under the provisions of the Housing Acts:-

	<u>Number of Houses</u>
Demolition and Closing Orders:	
(1) Housing Act, 1936	
(a) Demolition Orders, Section 11	8
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of undertakings given by the owners	4
(2) Housing Act, 1949	
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953	
Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	3

Repairs	<u>Informal Action</u>	<u>Number of Houses</u>
(3)	Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts	53
(4)	Public Health Acts:	
	Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	17

New Houses

Number of new houses constructed during the year:-

Council - Permanent type - 2 bedroomed	25
" Airy Flats	56

Private Enterprise:-

Houses	7
Buildings converted to flats	3

Total number of Council dwellings 937

Applicants on the Register:-

(a) Families living in rooms	130
(b) Families living in houses	133
(c) Applicants for bungalows	97

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY:

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Number of milk distributors on the Register	18
Number of dairy farmers (outside the urban area) who retail milk in the area	4

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Number of licences in force to use the designation 'tuberculin tested' in relation to milk obtained in bottles and retailed in the area	7
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The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Milk obtained in bottles	
(a) tuberculin tested 'pastourised'	14
(b) pastourised	12

There was only one distributor of ungraded milk in the district. Milk was supplied in churns to the larger hotels, restaurants and canteens and in bottles to other premises. There is still some neglect in the cleansing of empty churns and bottles before they are returned to the distributor. It is in the consumer's own interest to see that this is done as some difficulty is experienced by the dairyman in adequately cleansing churns and bottles that have not been washed after use.

The following samples were submitted for examination:-

Bacteriological Examination

<u>Type of Milk</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Ungraded	8	7	1
Tuberculin Tested	52	51	1
Tuberculin tested 'pastourised'	12	12	-
Pastourised	10	10	-

Biological Examination

Number	6	-	Tubercle bacilli present	Nil
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MEAT

The meat from the Skipton Slaughterhouse is still allocated to the urban districts of Skipton, Barnoldswick and Earby and the rural district of Skipton.

The cattle slaughtering section was closed from July to October for modernisation. This modernisation has resulted in raising the hygienic standards and ensures cleaner and better quality meat. It has helped to bring about a more humane slaughter of animals, and has reduced the heavy work of slaughtermen, while speeding up and making more efficient the handling and storage of meat.

The building, which is of stone, with interior walls of glazed brick to a height of eight feet, is lofty and well lighted. It was gutted to provide a slaughtering hall and a common cooling hall with accommodation for hanging 60 carcasses of beef, sufficient to supply a population larger than the 50,000 it catered for. The new lay-out and equipment are in accordance with the most modern practice, based on the Ministry of Food "line dressing" design.

Previously, cattle were slaughtered in four separate booths, each containing a small cubicle for hanging carcasses. The animals had to be dragged by chain from the lairages, and, after slaughter, hoisted for dressing by a hand-operated rope winch. It was necessary to allocate and remove the carcasses and offal before further slaughtering could be undertaken each day. This system was considered to be fairly satisfactory when a population of 14,000 was being served, but when centralisation of slaughtering increased the number of cattle to be slaughtered to upwards of 2,000 per annum, there was general congestion, making it almost impossible to maintain the hygienic standard considered essential in the handling of food. Now, the cattle housed in covered lairages immediately adjacent to the slaughtering hall, enter the stunning pen up a narrow passage, so constructed that they cannot turn, thus obviating the necessity for rough handling. In the pen each animal is stunned with a captive-bolt pistol, and a handle is pulled causing the floor of the stunning pen to collapse and the unconscious animal to roll out on to the floor of the slaughter hall. There it is pithed, stuck and bled. Bleeding has to take place on the floor, as there is not sufficient space available for a trough. During the final stages of bleeding a chain is attached to one of the beast's hind legs and it is lifted up by an electric hoist. The head is then skinned, taken off, washed and placed on an offal truck. Whilst still suspended the beast is conveyed by the hoist from the blood draining area to a 'clean' area for dressing, where it is lowered to the floor. The hide is then partially removed and the beast is again lifted by an electric

hoist when the organs are removed. The stomachs and intestines are taken to rooms close by the dressing position, and after removal the liver, skirt, tail, heart and lungs are placed on an offal truck. From there the carcass is moved further along the overhead rail and the hide is completely removed. The carcass is split and the sides are then passed along overhead rails, through a built-in "weigh section", to the cooling hall, or to the detention room if the meat inspector desires to make a further examination.

There are ample facilities provided for the cleansing and sterilising of equipment, etc. Five cold water points and two galvanised troughs, with a steam supply to each, are provided in the slaughter hall. As a further precaution a sterilant is added to the water. In addition there is a steam cabinet for the sterilisation of knives.

The carcasses and organs of the following animals were inspected:-

	Received from Collecting Centre	Casualties	Total
Cattle (excluding cows)	988	17	1,005
Cows	196	53	249
Calves	1,338	396	1,734
Sheep	9,929	332	10,261
Pigs	2,502	225	2,727
	14,953	1,023	15,976

The above figures do not include 19 pigs slaughtered under licence from the Ministry of Food.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	1,005	249	1,734	10,261	2,727
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	15	214	152	15
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	12	4	1	7	16
Percentage of the number of <u>carcasses</u> inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	2.09	7.63	12.40	1.54	1.14
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	9	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	8	-	-	-	55
Percentage of the number of <u>carcasses</u> inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.19	3.61	-	-	2.02
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	17		-	-	-

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND ORGANS CONDEMNED

Cattle:					T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.
37 whole carcasses	...	...	...	...	5.	15.	3.	18.
24 part carcasses	...	...	...	...		15.	1.	7.
Calves:								
215 whole carcasses	...	...	...	...	2.	15.	1.	0.
1 part carcass	...	...	...	...			1.	0.
Sheep:								
152 whole carcasses	...	...	...	...	2.	7.	1.	12.
7 part carcasses	...	...	...	...		1.	0.	24.
Pigs:								
15 whole carcasses	...	...	...	...		10.	0.	8.
71 part carcasses	...	...	...	...		10.	2.	3.
Heads & tongues (all animals except pigs)	...	...	...	...	2.	5.	0.	2.
Edible organs and fat	...	...	...	...		9.	6.	0. 13.
						26.	7.	0. 3.

The Ministry of Food disposes of all condemned meat. The meat is stained with a green dye before disposal.

OTHER FOOD FOUND UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION and disposed of by burying in the Council Refuse Tip

Food in tins and glass containers:-

<u>Meat</u>	<u>Milk</u>	<u>Vegetables</u>	<u>Fruit</u>	<u>Soup</u>	<u>Fish</u>	<u>Jam</u>	<u>Stew</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
203	119	170	709	44	40	7	6	15

<u>Other Food:</u>	58 - loz. packets potato crisps
	1 - 1 lb. cake mixture
	3 - packets of tea
	30 lbs. of bacon
	25 lbs. of tripe
	10 lbs. of biscuits
	35 - 1 lb. puddings
	69 lbs. sausages
	16 lbs. kippers
	10 lbs. fish cakes
	121 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. ham
	4 lbs. - 3oz. tongues
	3 stns. haddock
	2 stns. 3lbs. of hake

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 - 1951

The number of licenced slaughtermen is 36.

Sheep are stunned with an electrically operated instrument, and other animals with a captive belt pistol.

It was not found necessary to warn any slaughterman or to suspend any licence for contraventions of the provisions of the Act.

Butchers' Shops and Stalls:

There are sixteen retail shops to which fifty-six visits were made. The general standard of the cleanliness of the premises and equipment was good.

The following work was carried out:-

	<u>Shops</u>
Walls and ceilings decorated	4
Floors re-laid	2
Washing facilities provided	1
Sinks installed	1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 - Section 13 and Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Act

Five hundred and eighty inspections were made of the following feed premises:-

	<u>Number of Premises</u>
Hotels, restaurants and canteens	50
Fish Fryers	11
Bakehouses	20
Retail shops and stores	92

Section 14 - Registered

Manufacturers of petted, pressed and
preserved feeds

7

180

During the last three years there has been a marked improvement in the standard of cleanliness of feed premises, but the same progress has not been made in the education of the food handler, in personal hygiene.

There appears to be a decline in the regular use of restaurants and canteens for the consumption of meals, and it is now more of a seasonal trade. The staffs are reduced after the summer season and casual labour is engaged at the commencement of the following season. These conditions handicap the progress in the training of personnel in food hygiene. In retail shops where permanent staffs are employed better results have been achieved.

It is felt that greater advances could be made by the initiation of hygienic practices at an early age. Personal hygiene is habit forming and if the facilities are not provided in the schools and at home, good habits cannot be formed. Even if facilities are provided, permanent results cannot be achieved without more concentration in early training in the subject.

On a number of occasions during inspections of food premises, persons were seen to leave sanitary conveniences and return to the handling of food without washing their hands. When approached they realised the importance of the precautions. This illustrates the lack of elementary principles which could have been acquired by more training in early life.

Lectures were organised for food handlers, but the attendance was disappointing. It was found that more could be achieved by regular inspection of the premises, and giving advice during the inspections.

The department was instrumental in the carrying out of the following work:-

	Bakehouses	Hotels, Restaurants and Canteens	Retail Shops & Stores	Fish Fryers	Preserved Foods
Walls, ceilings & woodwork painted and limewashed	7	13	4	4	2
Floors cleansed	2	1	1	-	-
Walls & ceilings plastered	-	3	-	-	-
Walls cement rendered	-	-	-	1	-
Adequate washing facilities provided	-	-	2	-	1
New sinks installed	-	1	-	1	-
Cooking Apparatus renewed	-	1	-	-	-
Confectionery racks provided	1	-	-	-	-
Cooking apparatus canopies provided	-	1	-	-	-
New kitchen equipment	-	1	-	-	-
Reconditioned and modernised	-	-	-	-	1

ICE-CREAM

Registered Premises

Manufacturers -	
(a) hot mix process	2
Storage & Sale only	44

One hundred inspections of these premises were made, and the standard of cleanliness of the premises and equipment was found to be good.

Forty-eight samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and the results were as follows:-

Provisional Grade 1

44

Provisional Grade 2

4

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL

DIVISION No.1.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

D I V I S I O N A L M E D I C A L O F F I C E R

for the year

1953

by

M. HUNTER, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL.

DIVISION NO.1.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1953.

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11. Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.
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1881

1882

1883

1884

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1886

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1898

1899

1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The Division consists of the following districts:-

Ø	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Area in Acres.</u>
Silsden Urban District	5,820	7,101
Earby Urban District	5,348	3,519
Barnoldswick Urban District	10,282	2,764
Skipton Urban District	13,210	4,211
Skipton Rural District	23,715	146,071

Ø (Registrar General's Preliminary Report on the 1951 Census).

Social conditions in this mixed urban and rural community have changed little during the year, and the recession in the textile trade which took place in 1951 has been halted. Farming, one of the most important occupations, had a fairly good year despite difficulties in gathering the hay crop and the shortage of farm labour.

Progress in housing has been made in all districts, but the high place of housing in the priorities of hygiene must not be forgotten, and there are still many dwellings in both town and country which are no longer fit for habitation by present day standards.

Without good housing, the health, happiness and integrity of family life can neither be achieved nor maintained.

2. DIVISIONAL STAFF - as at 31st December, 1953.

(a)	M. Hunter.	M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.	Divisional Medical Officer.
	C. Harris.	M.B., B.Ch.	Assistant County Medical Officer.
	R.R. Stoakley.	M.B., B.Ch.	Assistant County Medical Officer.
	A.B. Morrison.	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P).	Clinic doctors working on a sessional basis.
	G.D.G. Cameron.	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P).	
	P. Vieyra.	M.D., D.P.H.	

Divisional Staff - continued

(b) NURSING.

Divisional Superintendent Health Visitor	1
Health Visitors/School Nurses	10
Home Nurses	5
Home Nurse/Midwives	9
Home Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors.	3
Midwives	2

(c) OTHER.

Ø Mental Health Social Worker	1
Home Teacher (Under Mental Deficiency Act)	1
Ø Venereal Diseases Social Worker	1
Ø Speech Therapist	1

Ø (Part time in No. 1. Division).

(d) DAY NURSERY STAFF.

Matron	1
Deputy Matrons	2
Nursery Assistants	10
Nursery Students	-
Cooks and Domestic	7

(e) ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLERICAL.

Administrative (Chief Clerk)	1
Clerical	6

(f) HOME HELPS.

Full-time	14
Part-time	19

(g) OTHER DOMESTIC STAFF.

Part-time	<u>3</u>
-----------	----------

Total: 97

Through the spring and summer months there was a shortage of staff in the Division, and difficulty was experienced in meeting all the calls made on the midwives and home nurses. Fortunately, it occurred at that time when pressure of work is usually somewhat reduced, and a full staff was available by the autumn.

HEALTH CENTRES.

Very little progress has been made with the provision of health centres which were to play such an important part in the National Health Service. It is a matter of economics, although well recognised that their provision would greatly help the integration of the three main branches of the Health Service, and improve the co-operation which is so obviously lacking at present, and which shows few signs of improving.

In this Division continued use has had to be made of buildings which are unsuitable for clinic purposes. Although much good work has been done, as can be seen from examination of the records of attendance, the use of rented premises makes for a wastage of time and effort when compared with the facilities which are available in a properly organised clinic.

The following figures show that the Local Health Authorities receive a very small proportion of the enormous sum of money which is now being spent on the National Health Service, and this handicap should be appreciated.

Analysis of the Gross and Net Cost of the National Health Service 1951-53. (England and Wales).

<u>Branch of Service.</u>	1951/52	1952/53
	(<u>Actual</u> <u>Expenditure</u>). £	(<u>Estimated</u> <u>Expenditure</u>). £
1. Hospital Running Costs	228,919,019	255,983,000
2. Hospital Capital Expenditure ...	10,817,750	9,250,100
3. Other Hospital Services	4,932,127	5,475,200
4. General Medical Services	42,122,554	77,569,000
5. Pharmaceutical Services	45,329,936	35,650,000
6. General Dental Services	31,434,071	17,950,000
7. Supplementary Ophthalmic Services	8,483,145	5,750,000
8. 50 per cent Grants to Local Health Authorities ...	16,886,033	19,418,000
9. All other expenditure ø	21,777,797	31,974,200
10. Gross Total:	410,702,432	459,019,500
11. Receipts applied towards expenditure +	62,244,700	69,136,000
12. Net Total:	348,457,732	389,883,500

ø Including Civil Defence £930,456 for 1951/52; £9,041,200 for 1952/53.

+ Including Civil Defence £890,000 for 1952/53.

It has been suggested that re-organisation of local government and the transfer of the administration of all local medical services to local authorities would provide an admirable and lasting solution of the many difficulties which have arisen before and after the National Health Service Act, 1946. The Service cannot be allowed to collapse so may well have to be re-organised before it prices itself out of existence.

4. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

(a) BIRTHS:

Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 203.

Return of births notified in the Divisional Area during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1953.

Details.	Domiciliary		Institutional		Total.
	Live.	Still.	Live.	Still.	
(a) Primary Notifications					
(i) Urban Districts	97	2	307	8	414
(ii) Rural Districts	52	1	254	1	308
(b) Add Inward Transfers:	-	-	205	2	207
(c) Total Notifications received:	149	3	766	11	929
(d) Deduct Outward Transfers	1	-	75	-	76
(e) Total adjusted births	148	3	691	11	853

Analysis of Institutional Births.

Born in (a) Hospitals:

(b) Maternity Homes:

(c) Nursing Homes:

Total:

652	10
36	1
3	-
691	11

(b) ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Name and address of Ante-Natal Clinic (whether held at Infant Welfare Centre or other premises)	No. of sessions now held per mth.		Number of women in attendance		Total number of attendances made by women during year	
	Combined with I.W.	Doctors. Separate Sessions.	No. of women who attended during year	No. of new cases incl. in Col. 5.	Combined with I.W.	Doctors Midwives only.
Barnoldswick Methodist Hall	-	4	111	82	-	459
Earby Old Grammar School	-	2	77	54	-	341
Glusburn Ebenezer Sunday School	-	2	36	27	-	213
Grassington Church House	-	1	16	11	-	61
TOTALS:	-	9	240	174	-	1074

(c) INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Name and Address of Centre	Number of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per month	Number of children who first attended a centre of this Local Authority during the year, and who at their first attendance were under 1 yr. of age.	Number of children who attended during the year and who were born in:	Total Number of children who attended during the yr.	No. of attendances during the yr. made by children who at the date of attendance were:	Total attendances during the yr.
			1951-52 1952-53 1953-54		Under 1 yr. 1 but 2 but 2 under 5	
Barnoldswick Methodist Hall	8	134	119 110 169	398	2277 563 678	3518
Earby Old Grammar School	4	77	66 43 37	146	1198 257 117	1572
Gargrave Institute	2	19	17 22 36	75	285 170 250	705
Glusburn Ebenezer Sunday Schl.	4	77	70 65 49	184	1181 233 229	1643
Grassington Church House	2	29	25 12 43	80	274 105 179	558
Silsden Kirkgate Sunday Schl.	4	62	60 52 71	183	627 227 188	1042
Skipton Millfields Hall	12	138	131 112 227	470	2693 1214 890	4797
TOTALS:	36	536	488 416 632	1536	8535 2769 2531	13835

MOBILE CLINICS:

Name and Address of Centre	No. of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per mth.	No. of children who first attended a centre of this Local Authority during the year, and who at their first attendance were under 1 yr. of age.	No. of children who attended during the year and who were born in:	Total No. of children who attended during the yr.	No. of attendances during the yr. made by children who at the date of attendance were:	Total attendances during the yr.
			1953	1952	1951-48	
Addingham	2	11	10	3	18	31
			15	12	9	36
Carleton	2	16	6	8	6	20
Cononley	2	10	15	14	20	49
Cowling	2	11	3	4	6	13
Lothersdale	2	5	49	41	59	149
TOTALS:	10	53	49	41	59	149
			91	21	30	142
			18	12	14	44
			86	48	50	184
			113	55	52	220
			40	22	25	87
			348	153	171	677

(a) BIRTHS:

The total number of domiciliary confinements was 151 compared with 702 confinements in hospital, giving a percentage of 21% compared with a national figure of 38% in 1952 (the latest available figures).

There are now so many maternity beds available in the area that applications very rarely have to be refused: certainly none from the priority groups.

(b) ANTE-NATAL CLINICS:

Attendances at the existing ante-natal clinics continued at a satisfactory level. At these clinics all patients have blood taken for Rhesus and Kahn testing, and haemoglobin estimation. Weighing, urine testing and blood pressure readings are carried out at every visit. Furthermore, patients are encouraged to discuss health matters and preparations for the confinement with the doctor, health visitor and midwife, and to attend the relaxation exercise classes which are provided at two clinics.

(c) CHILD WELFARE CENTRES:

Details of centres and attendances are given in table form. In addition, a mobile centre consisting of a large and well equipped caravan towed by a Land Rover has been operating in the Division on two days in each fortnight since June. This mobile centre provides clinic facilities for mothers and children living in less accessible places who would otherwise find it difficult or impossible to obtain them.

Up to the present it has provided a service in Lothersdale, Cononley, Cowling, Carleton and Addingham, and the attendances have been satisfactory.

(d) ANTE-NATAL HOSTEL.

The County Council has provided a hostel at Brighouse for patients requiring rest rather than special forms of treatment, but residence therein, unlike the hospitals, is not free of cost. This factor, combined with the distance from many patients homes, and the disinclination to leave their families, has resulted in a lack of demand for accommodation. and the hostel was closed at the end of the year.

(e) DENTAL CARE.

There is one dental clinic in this Division at Barnoldswick. During the year additional staff became available, and it was possible to offer free dental treatment to expectant and nursing mothers. In other parts of the Division the arrangement whereby local dental practitioners provide treatment under the County Council's scheme has continued.

(f) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

A premature infant is defined as one weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of the period of gestation. When such infants are born at home, special equipment, kept within the Division, is available on the midwife's request.

(g) DAY NURSERIES.

Children of the following categories within the age range 0-5 years are eligible for admission to day nurseries:-

- (i) The young child whose mother is ill or having a baby.
- (ii) The illegitimate child whose mother is seeking work.
- (iii) Children of parents who cannot find suitable homes or are living in overcrowded and/or insanitary dwellings.
- (iv) The young child of a widow who must educate and support her family unassisted, and also the young child of the mother whose husband is ill.
- (v) The child whose mother is engaged in the textile or other export industry.
- (vi) The child whose mother is engaged in the armament industry.
- (vii) Other reasons.

The Earby Day Nursery with forty places has been open throughout the year, and although the demand for accommodation has not been heavy it has been sufficient to maintain a full register.

The Barnoldswick Day Nursery was, after much delay in construction, opened in September. It is an excellent building, and provides accommodation for fifty babies and young children.

Both day nurseries are under medical supervision, the children being examined on admission, and periodically thereafter.

There are no residential nurseries within the Division.

(h) CHILDRENS' HOMES.

There are two homes in Skipton, Burnside House and Aireview House. The latter was re-opened during the year to meet a further demand for this type of accommodation in the County. Although administered by the Welfare Department, all children are examined by the Health Department Staff on admission, and periodically during their stay.

(i) CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND CHILD.

The care of the unmarried mother and her child continues to present many problems, and the health services can meet only part of the needs of these women. Satisfactory arrangements can usually be made, when required, for admission to a hostel or home, for confinement there, and for a stay of some length afterwards. The County Council provides financial assistance in such cases. But the problems of social and moral rehabilitation which arise are often very difficult to solve, and require the co-operation of voluntary and denominational bodies which are active in this field, and of other departments of the local authority.

The Organising Secretary of the Bradford Diocesan Moral Welfare Council has, as in past years, been especially helpful.

(j) MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Two whole-time midwives have been employed, and eight home nurses also undertake midwifery. This system of combined duties has been found to be the most practicable in rural areas. These ten members of the staff are trained to give gas and air analgesia during childbirth.

The number of midwives employed in hospitals in the Division on 31st December, 1953 was eleven.

STATISTICS.

Number of confinements in the Divisional area attended by midwives:-

	Institutional Total No. of cases.	Domiciliary Cases.				
		Dr. not present at time of delivery of child.	Dr. not booked. Dr. not present at time of deliv- ery.	Dr. booked. Dr. present at time of delivery (either booked Dr. or Another).	Dr. not present at time of dly. of child.	
Midwives employed by the Authority	-	3	24	39	88	1
Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations.	-	-	-	-	-	
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees.	570	-	-	-	-	5
Midwives in Private Practice:						
(a) Nursing Homes.	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Others.	-	-	-	-	-	
Totals:	570	3	24	39	88	7

No. of cases delivered in institutions but attended
by domiciliary midwives on discharge from institutions
before the 14th day 31.

Breast Feeding.

No. of domiciliary cases in which infant was wholly breast

MEDICAL AID NOTICES.

Summary of notices issued by midwives requesting the services of a doctor, as prescribed in the rules of the Central Midwives Board:-

In respect of -

(i)	Pregnancy.	3
(ii)	Labour.	35
(iii)	Lying-in period.	5
(iv)	The child.	5

HOME NURSING.

Five whole-time nurses, and eight nurses who combine home nursing with midwifery have been employed to care for patients in their own homes. Their work is of great value, and very much appreciated, particularly by the elderly and long term sick. The type of work and the amount vary considerably, depending to a large extent on the availability of hospital beds and out-patient treatment facilities.

A summary of the work done by the home nurses is as follows:-

(i)	Number of visits paid by home nurses during the year:	33,375
(ii)	Number of cases attended by home nurses during the year (excluding midwifery and maternity cases):	2,163

HEALTH VISITING.

Health visitors (who are also qualified nurses and midwives) are provided for home visiting, for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant or nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. In this Division, they are also employed as school nurses, and tuberculosis health visitors so that each has an area (usually with a clinic as well) in which she can employ her knowledge and skill in a wide variety of circumstances, and make an important contribution towards improving the health of the community. The most valuable part of this work is done in the homes where individual health teaching is given and families helped with their many problems.

Essentially a field worker, the health visitor can assist the family doctor in the care of the mother and child, particularly where there are feeding difficulties: and help him to supervise the welfare of the aged, the disabled and the tuberculous in their own homes. This association is developing very slowly despite its obvious value, and the possibility which it holds out of reducing the high cost of the medical services, apart from the alleviation of suffering.

STATISTICS:

Number of visits paid by health visitors during the year in addition to their attendance at clinics and welfare centres:-

continued -

	<u>First Visits.</u>	<u>Total Visits.</u>
(i) Expectant Mothers	129	371
(ii) Children under 1 year of age	826	5,328
(iii) Children between 1 and 5 years	-	8,707
(iv) In respect of Tuberculosis	-	1,259
(v) Other cases	-	1,801
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total:	<u>955</u>	<u>17,466</u>

8. HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service, although not free of charge, is now accepted as an important contribution to the stability of the household in sickness, disability or during childbirth, when the home help is engaged to take over the work of the household, and to turn her hand to anything which normally falls to the lot of a housewife, including cooking, cleaning, and the care of children. During the year the establishment of home helps has been twenty two, or the equivalent in part-time workers, and the following table shows the types of case and time devoted to them.

During most weeks between seventy and eighty individuals or families have received either part-time or whole-time help, which makes a heavy demand on the clerical and administrative staff of the Divisional Health Office.

Cases provided with home helps during the year come within the following classifications:-

	<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>Hours empl.</u>
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	86.	7,304
(ii) Tuberculosis	3	889
(iii) Chronic sick, including aged and infirm	197	33,320
(iv) Others	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 3,312
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total:	<u>294</u>	<u>44,825</u>

9. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The functions of the Local Health Authority under existing legislation are as follows:-

- (a) The appointment of duly authorised officers to take initial proceedings for removal to hospital of persons who are to be dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.
- (b) The duty under the Mental Deficiency Acts 1913 - 18 of ascertaining what persons in the area are defectives; providing suitable supervision for them, guardianship, or institutional care; and making arrangements for the provision of suitable training or occupation for defectives not in institutions.
- (c) The duty to make arrangements for the care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness or mental defectiveness, so far as provision is not otherwise made.
- (d) The provision of an ambulance service for the purpose of the mental health service.

Under the terms of paragraph (a) the Duly Authorised Officer has dealt with the following cases during the year:-

(i)	Number of cases certified under Section 16 of the Lunacy Act, 1890.	... ..	21
(ii)	Number of cases dealt with under Section 20.	... ..	-
(iii)	Number of cases dealt with under Section 21.	... ..	-
(iv)	Number of cases in which authorised officers have assisted in obtaining admission under Section 1. of the Mental Treatment Act.	... ..	1
(v)	Cases dealt with under Section 5 of the Mental Treatment Act.	... ..	-
(vi)	Any other cases referred to the authorised officer for action, but where it was not found necessary to proceed under the Lunacy or Mental Treatment Acts.	... ..	3

The mental health social worker visits mental defectives in Divisions 1 and 2 who are cared for by their parents or relatives, or who are working under supervision in various occupations. She also provides reports on patients on licence from hospitals, and keeps the Divisional Medical Officer informed of the welfare of all the defectives in his area.

A home teacher visits a few defectives in their own homes, and operates a group training centre in Skipton on three days each week, for children who can travel thereto. There are twelve children on the register of this centre, which provides both training and occupation, and a respite for their often harassed parents. Dinners are supplied through the school meals service, and travel warrants provided for defectives and their escorts. It is a service which is little known, but greatly appreciated.

continued -

The shortage of institutional accommodation for mental defectives is still a great problem, for according to the Ministry of Health there were, at the beginning of 1953, 3,527 urgent and 5,461 non-urgent cases awaiting admission.

With regard to persons suffering from mental illness, their care and after care are still unsatisfactory, for there is a lack of liaison between the mental hospitals, their out-patient clinics, and the local health authority; whilst the Duly Authorised Officer has no special training, and is not wholly employed in this type of work. The mentally sick are often only too well aware of the stigma which has for centuries been attached to their form of illness, and which is so slow in disappearing. The psychiatric social workers are few, so there is rarely anyone outside the family circle to whom mentally sick persons can turn or discuss their troubles without constraint. As mental illness is an increasing national problem, the need for a trained person to provide the liaison and after care which is now lacking becomes more and more obvious.

It may be of interest to the reader of this report to know that according to the Ministry of Health's most recent figures, nearly 150,000 cases of mental illness are in hospital, many in overcrowded mental hospitals: and nearly 60,000 mental defectives are in care, with the huge waiting list already quoted.

STATISTICS:

Particulars of mental defectives in the Division as on 1st January, 1953.

No. of ascertained mental defectives found to be "subject to be dealt with".

	Male.	Female.	Total.
(a) On licence from institutions	1	-	1
(b) Under guardianship (incl. cases on licence therefrom)	-	-	-
(c) Under Statutory Supervision (excl. cases on licence)	32	19	51
No. of cases incl. in (b) and (c) above awaiting removal to an institution	3	1	4
No. of mental defectives not at present "subject to be dealt with" but over whom some form of voluntary supervision is maintained:	9	3	12
No. of mental defectives receiving training:			
(a) In Occupation Centres:	4	4	8
(b) At home.	2	3	5

10. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Under the National Health Service Act the Local Health Authority has a statutory duty to make arrangements for persons in its area to be vaccinated against smallpox and immunised against diphtheria.

Vaccination and immunisation are, therefore, offered to the parents of all babies, and if desired are carried out by the family doctor or at any child welfare centre. Immunisation is again offered when the child reaches school age.

Both these procedures are voluntary, and without charge. These factors, along with the greatly reduced incidence of both diphtheria and smallpox, are giving parents a false sense of security. This falsity was only too apparent during 1953., when there were thirty nine cases of smallpox with seven deaths in West Yorkshire and the adjacent part of Lancashire. This outbreak resulted in an increased number of vaccinations during the year, but the figures for both vaccination and immunisation are still unsatisfactory.

Vaccination against whooping cough was introduced in 1952., and consists of three injections given at monthly intervals which, should it not fully protect the child, will modify the course of the disease. The response has been encouraging, for parents appreciate that whooping cough is frequently a distressing, and often a serious disease.

STATISTICS:

(a) Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated during Period:-

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 - 4 yrs.	5 - 14 yrs.	15 yrs. or over.	Total.
Number vaccinated	108	167	218	899	1010	2402
Number re-vaccinated	-	-	13	270	986	1269

(b) Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria during the year.

Age at date of final injection		
Under 5.	5 to 14.	Total.
404	104	508

(c) Number of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection (i.e., subsequent to complete full course) during the year... .. 641.

STATISTICS:

(d) Number of children who completed a full course of immunisation against whooping cough during the year:-

Age at 31.12.53. i.e. born in year.	Under 1 1953	1 1952	2 1951	3 1950	4 1949	5 1948	Total.
Number immunised.	37	178	46	25	16	5	307

11. CARE AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE.

This responsibility of the Local Health Authority covers a very wide field, and in a short report such as this reference can only be made to certain aspects. One of these is the provision of sick room requisites which home nurses issue on loan to appropriate cases. In addition, crutches, spinal beds and invalid chairs may be provided; convalescent home treatment, and extra milk for certain cases of tuberculosis.

The prevention of illness raises the question of health education. It is a difficult problem as no legislation, rules or regulations can make up for the lack of interest in health on the part of the public. It is neither easy to get the message of health across, nor to measure success achieved in this direction. The Press and Radio are helpful, so are leaflets and posters. But the personal approach by professional health workers is undoubtedly the best, and has achieved much. Far more could be done if additional staff were available for this field work, and to give lectures and demonstrations to many types of audience.

The education of expectant and nursing mothers is, however, a matter to which close attention can be given at home visits and clinics. The health visitors can also assist in the prevention of tuberculosis, for we have a close liaison with the Chest Physician through their attendance at his clinics, and by means of monthly case conferences and discussions.

It has become the custom to refer to the care of the elderly in this section. In 1901 the number of people aged 65 and over in England and Wales was one-and-a-half million or 4.7 per cent. In 1951 it was 10.9 per cent, and by 1977 is likely to be over seven millions, about 16 per cent. In addition the number of younger people is decreasing. By helping to increase the expectation of life, medical science has created a problem which must be solved against a social background which is changing, and in which there is a tendency to regard it as a community or national responsibility rather than a family matter. The vast majority of old people want to live at home, and manage surprisingly well with the assistance of relatives, home nurses and home helps, and kindly neighbours. But if they become ill or their condition deteriorates, it is usually impossible to find a hospital bed for them immediately, and things become very difficult. Furthermore, the present organisation of the home help service is not designed to cover these cases satisfactorily.

For those who are too frail to manage in their own homes, even with assistance, hostels are necessary. There are insufficient hostels, and they have neither the facilities nor staff to deal with a degree of disability or temporary illness, which, in many cases should not demand admission to hospital.

continued -

In some places there are "half-way houses" to meet the needs of this type of case, but as there are none here, there is an obvious need for the Local Health Authority and Regional Hospital Board to meet and provide a solution.

The problem of accommodation for the old person whose mental faculties are failing, but is not in need of medical or surgical treatment in a hospital, also needs solving by joint consultation of the same authorities.

12. PROBLEM FAMILIES.

The presence in the community of a subnormal or problem group has long been recognised, and although the numbers in this group are much fewer than they were at the turn of the century, a sharper emphasis has been placed on their presence by the improvements which have taken place in the standards of parentcraft and the physical environment of the bulk of the population.

These problem families are, generally speaking, shiftless, lazy, backward, and incorrigibly ineducable; and they present a continuous problem to the medico-social worker. Their names appear with monotonous regularity at the divisional conferences which are arranged periodically to discuss the neglect and ill-treatment of children in their own homes. These conferences are valuable in so far as they enable the efforts of the various social workers to be co-ordinated, but there is no doubt that the most effective method of treating the problem family lies in the employment of Family Service Units sponsored by the Society of Friends, which are now rendering truly practical assistance in some large towns.

This Society has recently established the Spofforth Hall Recuperative Centre to which mothers (and their children) are sent who fail to provide a satisfactory home for themselves and their families. At this Centre near Wetherby, education and rehabilitation have been provided for a small number of families with most encouraging results.

13. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

With the exception of the Grassington ambulance which is operated by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade under agency arrangements in Upper Wharfedale, all vehicles are now under the direct control of the County Council. The new depot in Barnoldswick serves the West Craven area; Silsden and adjacent parishes are served from Keighley; Addingham and Beamsley from Guiseley, and the remainder of the Division from the Skipton depot.

Judging from comment and the absence of complaint, it is assumed that these arrangements are providing a satisfactory service.

STATISTICS:

	<u>1953.</u>
Mileage covered:	123,442.
Patients carried:	16,227.

14. THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The following statistics, kindly supplied by the Divisional Education Officer, relate to one day in mid-October, 1953., and may be of interest to the reader of this Report.

(i)	No. of children attending school on that day ...	7,229.
(ii)	No. of schools	55.
(iii)	No. taking school dinners	4,444.
(iv)	No. receiving mid-morning milk	5,500.
(v)	No. eligible for free dinners	222.

The Health Department has many responsibilities in this great service, to which some reference is appropriate. The basis is the examination of each child on at least three occasions during school life, along with special examinations of those children who require particular observation or care, and the provision of guidance to the Youth Employment Officer when the time comes for pupils to leave school.

That the service is appreciated is obvious from the number of parents who take the trouble to attend these examinations. Whilst they rely on the family doctor for treatment, they value the opportunity of discussing with the school doctor the health of their children as opposed to their diseases.

It will be noted in Table (c) that the general condition of the pupils is mainly very satisfactory. Their height and weights continue to increase, and from statistics collected elsewhere it appears that average children to-day are about three inches taller and eight pounds heavier than children of corresponding age living thirty years and more ago. These increases, relatively greater for the poorer than for the wealthier, have been scarcely affected by the recent War, and they continue.

TABLE 1.

(a) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections in the prescribed groups:-

Entrants	897
7 to 8 year group... ..	-
Last year primary... ..	717
First year secondary	149
Last year secondary	<u>419</u>
Total:	<u><u>2,182</u></u>

(b) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections... ..	459
Number of Re-inspections	<u>498</u>
Total:	<u><u>957</u></u>

continued -

(c) PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Group.	Defective vision(excl. squint).	For any of other conditions recorded in Table 11A.	Total individual pupils.
Entrants	14	174	164
7 to 8 year group	-	-	-
Last year primary	99	128	208
First year secondary	8	36	40
Last year secondary	36	63	91
Total:	157	401	503

(d) CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF ALL PUPILS GIVEN A ROUTINE EXAMINATION.

Age Groups.	No. of pupils inspected.	A. (Good). No. % of Col.2.	B. (Fair) No. % of Col.2.	C. (Poor). No. % of Col.2.
Entrants	897	533 59.42%	342 38.13%	22 2.45%
7 to 8 year group	-	- -	- -	- -
Last year primary	717	468 65%	249 35%	- -
First year secondary	149	98 65.8%	50 33.5%	1 0.7%
Last year secondary	419	297 71%	122 29%	- -
Total:	2,182	1,396 64%	763 34.9%	23 1.1%

TABLE II.

(e) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

All defects noted at medical inspection as requiring treatment are included in this return, whether or not this treatment was begun before the date of the inspection.

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections.		Special Inspection	
	No. of Defects.	No. of Defects.	No. of Defects.	No. of Defects.
	Requir- ing treat- ment.	Requiring observat- ion but not treat- ment.	Requir- ing treat- ment.	Requiring observatio but not treat- ment.
Skin	35	21	6	1
Eyes: (a) Vision	157	117	32	36
(b) Squint	24	11	10	4
(c) Other	11	6	1	1
Ears: (a) Hearing	8	13	6	4
(b) Otitis Media	13	17	1	-
(c) Other	2	5	1	-
Nose or Throat	61	192	14	40
Speech	5	10	10	6
Cervical Glands	17	86	8	11
Heart and Circulation	5	87	1	17
Lungs	16	67	3	16
Developmental:				
(a) Hernia	3	18	1	2
(b) Other	5	164	2	7
Orthopaedic:				
(a) Posture	30	22	10	3
(b) Flat Feet	83	31	25	4
(c) Other	40	58	17	3
Nervous System:				
(a) Epilepsy	4	2	3	-
(b) Other	2	7	1	5
Psychological:				
(a) Development	3	6	5	8
(b) Stability	6	23	3	6
Other	34	17	17	11
TOTAL:	564	980	177	185

CLINIC ARRANGEMENTS.

School Clinics are held in Skipton, Silsden and Barnoldswick where children requiring observation can be seen regularly, and given treatment when appropriate.

In addition, there are specialist clinics for Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat, and Eye defects: speech therapy clinics in Skipton and Barnoldswick: and a Child Guidance Clinic.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

A register is maintained of all pupils who, owing to some mental or physical disability, require special educational treatment. At the end of the year 65 pupils were included; the division into the various categories being as follows:-

Blind	3	Partially Deaf	3	Physically Handicapped	18
Partially sighted	2	Maladjusted	3	Educationally	
Deaf	6	Delicate	7	Subnormal	23

Total: 65

The number of pupils who were attending special schools at the end of the year was 25., the details being as follows:-

Schools for the Blind	2	Schools for Maladjusted	3
Schools for Partially sighted	2	Schools for Delicate	2
Schools for the Deaf	5	Schools for Physically	
Schools for Partially Deaf	1	Handicapped	4
		Schools for Educationally	
		Subnormal	6

Total: 25

PUPILS UNDER OBSERVATION.

In addition to the pupils classified as handicapped under the Education Act, 1944., 78 children with defects of a less serious or temporary nature were under observation at the end of the year.

NETHERSIDE HALL.

This residential school near Grassington has been provided for the education of delicate boys whose homes are within the West Riding. Their medical supervision is the responsibility of the staff of the department.

DENTAL SERVICE.

The following statistics have been provided by Mr. O.A. Long, Senior Dental Officer, appertaining to the work within the Division:-

continued -

Number of children inspected	2,715
" " " found to require treatment	2,173
" " " offered treatment	1,857
" " " treated	1,482
" " Attendances	2,826
" " Extractions:	
(a) temporary	1,683
(b) Permanent	251
" " General anaesthetics:	9
" " Fillings:	
(a) temporary	625
(b) permanent	1,919
" " Other treatments:	
(a) temporary	270
(b) permanent	864

15. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Particulars of medical examinations carried out by the Divisional Medical Staff are listed below:-

Entry to County Superannuation Scheme: 66

Teachers and entrants to training colleges:... .. 18

Fitness for work: 7

In addition, certain examinations were carried out under the Children Act, 1948., the Mental Deficiency Acts, and the Education Act, 1944.

